



FROM THE PASTOR: Easter Is A Season

We had wonderful Holy Week and Easter services this year. Huge thanks to our staff, worship team, the UMM group for doing the Last Supper drama, and everyone else who contributed to the many Holy Week services. We also had over 300 people present for our Community Easter Egg Hunt! Thank you to Children and Youth Committee Chair, Diana Hague, and everyone else who helped make this event a smashing success this year. And our three Easter services at 6, 8:30, and 11 all offered unique worship opportunities to celebrate the Resurrection in glorious manners. It was such a special day of worship!

But did you know that Easter is not one day. Easter is a whole season that lasts fifty days from Easter through the Day of Pentecost. It is the most joyous and celebrative season of the whole Christian year, even more so than Advent and Christmas! Easter is a season to celebrate the risen Christ as we reflect on his post-resurrection appearances and the new life that the risen Christ still offers for us today. It is a season of celebrating hope.

I know May is its own busy season, but I hope you'll continue to join us for this great celebration of Easter every week in May. Invite a friend or neighbor to come to church with you. Encourage someone to be part of your Sunday school class or small group who isn't yet connected to one. Our busy Holy Week season may be over, but the Easter celebration continues. Come and experience the power and presence of the risen Christ during this season. Come and experience the hope and the promise of new life that Christ of-

fers. Come and continue celebrating Easter with us and proclaiming that Christ is risen throughout this joyous season! See you Sunday.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Theresa

Upcoming Sermon Scriptures

May 4	John 20:19-31
May 11	John 21:1-19
May 18	Guest Preacher
May 25	Matthew 28:16-20
June 1	Luke 24:36-53 (Ascension)
June 8	Acts 2:1-21 (Pentecost)

NOW IS A GREAT TIME TO JOIN A SMALL GROUP AT SMYRNA FIRST

Sunday morning schedule:

FELLOWSHIP, 10 am, room 201

MINGS (Men in Need of God's Strength),
10 am, room 312

MOTLEY CHRISTIANS, 10 am, room 303

PAIRS & SPARES, 10 am, room 307

SEARCHERS, 10 am, room 305

WINGS (Women in Need of God's Strength),
10 am, room 310

YOUTH (6TH-12TH GRADES), 10 AM,
rooms 315-317

3RD-5TH GRADES,
PRESCHOOL-2ND GRADE, 10 am,
room 311

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS FOR MAY

8:30 Greeters

May 4 Scott Buchholz, Jan Schilling
 May 11 Scott Buchholz, Jan Schilling
 May 18 Scott Buchholz, Jan Schilling
 May 25 Scott Buchholz, Jan Schilling

Coffee & Conversation

Kim Honey
 UMM
 Donna Sweeney
 Kim Honey

Sound Board

Jason & Cynamon Fritschler
 Lane & Geneva Cronan
 Jason & Cynamon Fritschler
 Lane & Geneva Cronan

11:00 Liturgist

May 4 Bridget Sloane
 May 11 Bridget Sloane
 May 18 Bridget Sloane
 May 25 Bridget Sloane

Children's Message

N/A
 Lynn Patterson
 Lydia Oliver

Sound Board

Tyler Cooley
 Scott Elledge, Ron Patterson
 Matthew & Peter Ferris, Tom Wright
 Scott Elledge, Tom Wright

11:00 Ushers

Jeff Bowles, Greg Upham

11:00 Communion Servers

Tom & Nita Wright

8:30 Communion Servers

Candy Kane, Carolyn Fox

Mission and Outreach Committee

The Mission Team to Sager Brown in Baldwin, Louisiana had a wonderful week. Work revolved around verifying hygiene kits, verifying cleaning buckets and the building of a wheelchair ramp for a local resident who has brain cancer. It was a week of fellowship, hard work and a very meaningful worship service the last night we were there. The team appreciates the congregation's support with our yearly spaghetti lunch which makes this trip possible. We would love to have others join us next year on April 12, 2026. It is truly a rewarding experience.

Smyrna First UMC was recognized and honored with a plaque from the Town of Smyrna for our volunteer participation in the Adopt-A-Roadway project. Greg Upham and Saya Hickey accepted the plaque on our behalf. Greg has done a fantastic job taking on this project since Pat Hickey's passing. It is a great way to take care of God's creation by keeping our environment clean.

The food pantry is going strong and so far the recent cuts by the federal government have not affected our ability to purchase food from Second Harvest. We also acquire food from Feed America First which is mostly donations from large retailers and manufacturers that are available to us for just the cost of transportation. The help from the congregation on Sharing Sunday is also a big boost to our budget. The Sharing item in May is **breakfast cereal**. Your support is greatly appreciated.

-Trish Pendleton



SALT

(Senior Adults Living Triumphantly)
 For all who are 55+

A great time was had by all at the April SALT gathering in fellowship hall. The food was great and the WSU pickers (including our own Gary Dempsey) kept our feet a tapping (see pictures below)!

The next committee meeting will be May 7, 10 am in the conference room. The May SALT event will be on May 15th and the menu will consist of Taco salad, dessert, drinks and a program regarding mental health. We would love to see you there!



Come See With Your Own Eyes!

This year, I made it to the Easter Egg Hunt unintentionally. I confess, I hadn't planned to be there, but Bridget was coming up to the church mid-morning to arrange Easter flowers, and if I had known how long that was going to take, I probably would have stayed home. But we were here through lunch as the noise outside started to build for the Easter Egg Hunt. I went outside to see if there were any pictures I could capture and I was blown away! I didn't know there were so many young families in Smyrna! It was wall to wall kids, with moms and dads, and everyone was having the time of their lives! The kids played in the soap suds generated by the "Foamboree" machine, dancing to the beat of the hip-hop songs blasting through the PA system. Then, filled with cookies, they went off to hunt for eggs. It was something to see.

I don't know how many, if any of the folks, came back the next day for Easter Sunday worship or Sunday School – I truly hope some did! I do know that on Saturday afternoon, we were engaged with our community in a way that would make Jesus proud!

As a former church pastor (and as Smyrna's stewardship team leader), I know how important it is to have folks come out for worship, involved and engaged. Being good stewards is about more than just who is in the pews and what's in the financial report. We have been entrusted with the gifts of this church by the saints who have gone before us, to be a church for this community, welcoming and ready to meet the needs of our neighbors as we see them!

I think of the post-resurrection conversation Jesus had with Thomas. "Come and see: the mark of the nails in my hand, the wound on my side. See and believe!"

This is a church that is right where God wants us to be, amid families that have needs, have dreams, have different skin shades and different languages, who are navigating their lives in challenging times.

So as soon as the 2026 Easter Egg Hunt goes on the calendar, it's going on mine. I invite you to "come and see." No better time to see Jesus' church in action!

Ken Sloane, Stewardship



TABLE HOSTESSES



SERVERS



Thank you to all who helped make this such a successful, fun day!

The Sparrow's Nest Mother's Day Out



Hello Families of Preschoolers!

This year is almost over!
Register now for fall classes.
Classes meet Monday and Wednesday,
9 am - 2 pm,
August through May.



We would love to be a part of your child's education!
Check out our website: smyrna1stumc.org
For questions contact
sparrowsnestdirector@gmail.com or call
615.459.2826.

Betsy Jordan, Director

A ministry of Smyrna First United Methodist Church

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

2025-2026 OPEN ENROLLMENT NOW

Registration	\$100 per child
Monthly Tuition	\$200 first child
	\$180 second child
	\$170 for third child

Application forms are available online:
www.smyrna1stumc.org/Sparrow's Nest



Sparrow's Nest enjoyed a visit from Meteorologist
Shelby Mac from News2.

Our 2025 Pre-K Graduates are ready for Kindergarten!



**Sparrow's Nest Parent's Day Out
Spring 2025 – Mrs. Jordan & Mrs. Rogers**



Emma McClung	5/1
Scott Elledge	5/7
Carol Smith	5/8
Lily Rowlett	5/9
Don Hollins	5/9
Mary Holloway	5/9
Regina Medlen	5/9
Jo Motley	5/10
Donna Nelson	5/13
Cathy Pickens	5/13
Kim Honey	5/14
Oren Oliver	5/15
Saya Hickey	5/17
Linda Carol Taylor	5/19
Suzanne Willians	5/21
Lisa Mayhew	5/23
Nadina Tharpe	5/24
Shirley Cobble	5/25
Derwin Brownlow	5/26
Hope Warner	5/26
Tyler Wooding	5/26
Mike Ashworth	5/29
Larry Bass	5/29
Lane Cronan	5/31

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed or
is listed incorrectly, please notify the church
office: sandra.phelps@smyrnairstumc.org



Tom & Nita Wright	5/24
Karen & Larry Yatuzis	5/26
Mike & Jan Bryant	5/27
Dub & Marjorie Raborn	5/28
Danny & Michelle Martin	5/31

**American
Red Cross
Blood Drive**

**May 1, 9:30-3:30
Fellowship hall
Register at redcrossblood.org**

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

Approved 1/19/2025

When Rutherford County Schools are closed for weather, the church office will be closed and all activities for the day will be canceled.

When inclement weather occurs on a weekend it will be discerned on an individual basis if the church will be closed and/or services will be postponed, and the membership will be notified.



Smyrna First UMC was recognized and honored with a plaque from the Town of Smyrna for our volunteer participation in the Adopt-A-Roadway project. Greg Upham and Saya Hickey accepted the plaque on our behalf. Greg has done a fantastic job taking on this project since Pat Hickey's passing. It is a great way to take care of God's creation by keeping our environment clean.



The next clean up is scheduled for early in July.



CONGRATULATIONS to Andi Steinberg, who will graduate from Travecca University on Saturday, May 3, with a Bachelor of Arts in Christian Ministry Leadership.

CONGRATULATIONS to Matt Sanders who will graduate from the Air Force Academy.

CONGRATULATIONS to our Sparrow's Nest 2025 Pre-K graduates. (See picture page 2)

FINANCIAL UPDATE BUDGET VS ACTUAL

April Tithes & Offerings Received	\$ 27,832.00
April Budget Needs	\$ 31,442.00
April Over/(Under) Budget	\$ (3,610.00)
Balance Forward	\$ (11,125.00)
YTD Over/(Under) Budget Needs	\$ (14,735.00)

Use this QR code to access the VANCO donation page for a one time online donation or to set up recurring donations.



Vacation Bible School



One Day, Saturday, June 14
9 am - 3 pm



May 11, 2025



Sunrise Service at the Depot always draws a crowd.



Smyrna First United Methodist Church
HE IS RISEN
Happy Easter
 CELEBRATE THE RESURRECTION
 6 • 8:30 • 11

HOLY WEEK at Smyrna First UMC was a very busy but rewarding time.



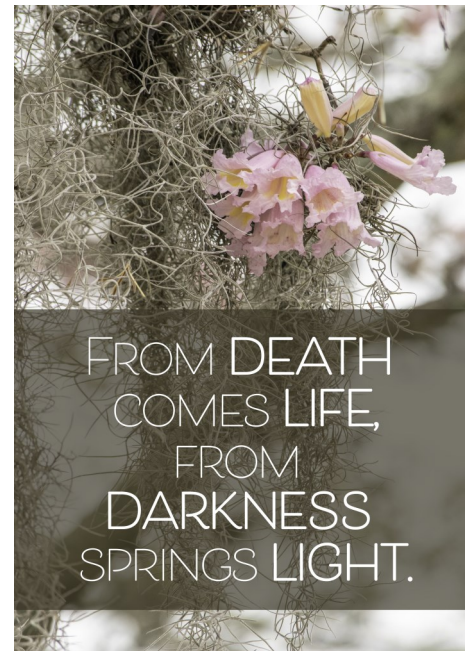
BIG crowd enjoyed a great Egg Hunt and the Foamboree!



Carry the Cross from Sam Davis Home is one of the highlights of Holy Week at Smyrna First!



The youth, leaders and the Johnsons had a great time at the parsonage for the Glow in the Dark egg hunt!



FROM DEATH
 COMES LIFE,
 FROM
 DARKNESS
 SPRINGS LIGHT.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

8:30 AM Modern Worship
9:30 AM Coffee & Conversation
10:00 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Traditional Worship
5:00 PM Youth

MONDAY SCHEDULE:

9:00 AM Sparrow's Nest
5:30 PM Girl Scouts (once a month)
6:00 PM Cub/Boy Scouts
6:00 PM Sinfonietta Rehearsal

TUESDAY SCHEDULE:

11:00 AM Yoga Class

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE:

9:00 AM Sparrow's Nest
3:00 PM Food Pantry
5:30 PM Pastor's Bible Study
(as scheduled)
5:30 PM Brownies (twice a month)
6:00 PM Hand Bells
7:15 PM Chancel Choir

THURSDAY SCHEDULE:

5:30 PM Pack Backpacks
(First Thursday)

6:00 PM Praise Band

6:00 PM Yoga Class

FRIDAY SCHEDULE:

10:00 AM Morning Glories
(as scheduled)

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

June and July we will meet
together at 10 am for a combined
Worship service.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Complete Cleaning Crew is on campus every Friday, 1:00-5:00 pm to clean our buildings.						
					Church office is closed on Fridays.	
				1 See Schedule 5:30 Pack Backpacks BLOOD DRIVE 9:30 am - 3:30 pm	2	3 Chamber Concert 2 pm Sanctuary
4 COMMUNION See Schedule "Sharing Sunday" 12:15 pm UWF	5 See Schedule 6 pm Worship Committee	6 See Schedule 5:30 pm TEA Hostess meeting	7 See Schedule 10:00 SALT Committee CR	8 See Schedule	9	10
11 See Schedule MOTHER'S DAY 7:30 am Men's Breakfast cancelled	12 See Schedule	13 See Schedule	14 See Schedule Sparrow's Nest Graduation and Final Day for 2025 5:30 Brownies	15 See Schedule 12:00 SALT Lunch FH	16	17 Orchestra Mini-Recital 4:30-8:30 pm Sanctuary
18 See Schedule 12:15 Leadership Bd Cancelled	19 See Schedule	20 See Schedule	21 See Schedule 6 pm Praise Band	22 See Schedule	23	24
25 See Schedule 4 pm NO Youth	26 Memorial Day Holiday	27 See Schedule	28 See Schedule 5:30 Brownies Rm. 311	29	30 RCS Final	31 FH=Fellowship Hall

**SMYRNA FIRST
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH**

301 Sam Davis Road
Smyrna, TN 37167

Address Correction
Requested

Tel: 615-459-2826

Visit us on the web:
smyrna1stumc.org
Facebook: @sfumc.tn
Instagram: @sfumc.tn
Twitter: @sfumc_tn

**Sparrow's Nest
Parents Day Out**

Monday &
Wednesday
9 am - 2 pm
For questions,
call 615-459-2844

A ministry of
Smyrna First UMC.

*"Smyrna First
UMC
is a community
who is passionate
about welcoming
all, loving all and
serving all so that
we may offer Christ
to all."*

WORSHIP with us

Modern Worship, 8:30 am; Traditional Worship, 11:00 am

**GET CONNECTED WITH A SMALL GROUP
AT SMYRNA FIRST**

Sunday school classes available each week:

Fellowship, 10 am, room 201

MINGS (Men in Need of God's Strength),
10 am, room 312

Motley Christians, 10 am, room 303

Pairs & Spares, 10 am, room 307

Searchers, 10 am, room 305

WINGS (Women in Need of God's Strength),
10 am, room 310

YOUTH (6TH-12TH GRADES), 10 AM,
rooms 315-317

**3RD-5TH GRADES,
PRESCHOOL-2ND GRADE,**

10 am, room 311

2025

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor.....	Rev. Theresa Johnson
Worship Music Leader.....	Branson Clark
Youth Ministries Director.....	Andi Steinberg
Office Manager.....	Sandra Phelps
Organist.....	Bobby Medlen
Pianist.....	Jesse Bobick
Financial Secretary.....	Andi Steinberg
Sparrow's Nest Director.....	Betsy Jordan
Custodial.....	Complete Cleaning Concepts

Coming Soon!

PROJECT TRANSFORMATION SUMMER CAMP

Enroll now for June & July, 2025

If you would like to be a volunteer, please
let Michelle Martin know.